

A quarterly newsletter issued by Tennessee Government Executive Institute alumni

**June 2004** 

#### 2004 Steering Committee

**Chairperson Thomas Chester 1994** 

Vice Chairperson Susan Cowden 2002

Past Chairperson Chuck Pitt 2000

2003 Members Roland Colson Reagan Farr Joe Swinford

2002 Members Gabrielle Chapman Alvin Pearson Joe Werner

At Large Members Barbara Charlet 2000 Buddy Lea 1999 Glenda Shearon 1993 Brenda White 1990

**Ex-Officio Members Lynn Goodman 2002** 

Newsletter Editor Susan Cowden 2002

**Graphic Designer Sharon Buwalda** 

### Announcing the Class of 2004

Commissioner Randy Camp officially announced the selection of the TGEI 2004 Class.

The thirty selected represent a total of 27 different State Agencies and Departments. The Class Orientation is scheduled to be delivered on July 29, 2004 at the Bell South Building, Nashville, TN. In August 2004, these thirty individuals will head to UT Knoxville to begin their metamorphosis.

Congratulations to the following Members of the TGEI Class of 2004:

William Benson

Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

Alva Boatwright Military

Kae Carpenter-Todd Personnel

Patricia Clark Agriculture

Larry Cole General Services

Committee Description

Cammie Davenport Woodle Transportation

Richard DuBray Treasury

Jack Elder

Board of Probation & Parole

Mark Farber

Health Facilities Commission

Edward Gilmore Mental Health &

Developmental Disabilities

Darin Gordon TennCare

Robert Gowan Commerce & Insurance

Karen Hale Comptroller's Office

**Zoyle Jones** Correction

Valeria Kolison Correction

John Lamar Revenue

Van Moffatt

Finance & Administration

Rebecca Montgomery Administrative Office of the Courts

Robert Nichols Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

David Owenby

Environment & Conservation

David Sherrill Comptroller

Martha L. Staley Finance & Administration

James Stinson

Tennessee Regulatory Authority

Michael Thomason Labor & Workforce Development

**Tod Trulove** Financial Institutions

**Timothy Webb** Education

Andrea Willis Health

**Daniel Wright** Safety

Kevin Wright Human Services

George Zukotynski Mental Retardation

#### TGEI/TGMI Promotional Items Survey

TRICOR is exploring the interest level among TGEI/TGMI alumni about starting a promotional program. The program will offer a variety of promotional items featuring either the TGEI or TGMI logo. TRICOR will partner with a promotional company and offer all items at cost and will not receive any financial benefit from this program.

Recently, Pat Gilroy of TRICOR sent alumni a brief 2-4 minute survey. If you have not responded to this survey, please take a minute and go to: <a href="http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=4075497851">http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=4075497851</a>.



# Spotlight Article: Joe Swinford

Imagine working in a position where your day begins with a call from one someone who is unable to access the service they desperately need and later that afternoon you are part of a departmental working group meeting to address systemic problems. Many times the systemic issues are the very ones faced by the caller

from earlier in the morning. Joe Swinford has this unique opportunity in his role as Director of the Office of Consumer Affairs for the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities. In this position Joe has the chance to not only help resolve problems faced by people served by his department on a individual basis, but also the chance to deal with the root causes of these problems. As the primary link to the service recipients and a member of the management team, Joe plays a key role in making TDMHDD a responsive, well managed agency.

In the summer of 2003, Joe was selected to participate in the 2003 Class of the Tennessee Government Executive Institute (TGEI). Through his TGEI experience, Joe gained new insights into leadership principles and practices, networked with other state government professionals, analyzed trends in business, and assessed his own work and leadership styles. Thanks to TGEI's leadership and team-building activities, Joe returned to TDMHDD with renewed enthusiasm for serving the citizens of Tennessee. TGEI also benefited for Joe's participation through his selection as President for the Class of 2003. In addition to leading his classmates in activities such as raising funds for the TGI Endowment, he serves as a member of the TGEI steering committee. He sees TGEI as an essential tool for ensuring that the citizens of Tennessee will always have the skilled capable leaders needed to serve them.

Public services have long been a part of Joe's professional career. After earring his bachelor's degree from The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in music education, Joe taught school in southeast Tennessee and northwest Georgia. While teaching full time Joe work part time a minister until he move to Louisville Ky. to pursue a masters degree at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Following graduation Joe returned to the Chattanooga area as a full time minister. Joe made the decision to focus his ministry in the area of mental illness, which lead to an opportunity in community mental health and in 1995 the chance to combine his administrative skills and other talents as Consumer Affairs Director for TDMHDD.

Joe is married to Lynette Swinford, who is also a state employee working with the Council on Developmental Disabilities. They and their three daughters live in Lavergne where Joe is active in the community as Vice President of the Heritage Valley Home Owner's Assoc. Children's activities at school and with North Rutherford Soccer keep Joe and Lynette on the go much of the time. When possible they enjoy relaxing by camping. Joe says this is a fantastic family activity, especially with the wonderful Tennessee State Parks.



#### Class of 1984

George Street: "Director with the Department of General Services, Purchasing Division. Currently serving as President of the National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO). The National Association of State Procurement Officials is a non-profit association dedicated to strengthening the procurement community through education, research, and communication. It is made up of the directors of the central purchasing offices in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the territories of the United States."

Jim Petrucelli. "Same ole, same ole". Retired, living in Naples FL. Going back to Boulder CO for the summer. Quite a political whipsaw. Naples is to the right of Rush Limbaugh, Boulder is to the left of Ralph Nader. Hope all is well in Nashville, and that State employees get a big raise. Petro"

Shirley Hart: "Nothing much. Still at Deloitte & Touche. Working too hard. Looking forward to vacation this summer and wish I could take 2 months instead of 2 weeks. Hope things are well with you..."

#### **Class of 1987**

Mike Countess ('87), Assistant Commissioner in Agriculture, retired from state government effective May 14, 2004 after 31 years of service. I would say I hope he enjoys a new leisurely pace fishing and doing all that other stuff retirees do, but that is not for Mike. He has begun a second career as Policy Analyst for the Southern Group of State Foresters (SGFG). SGFG is a professional organization of the respective State Foresters for 13 southern state and 2 territories. His office will be at the Ellington Agricultural Center. Good luck, Mike, and thanks for 31 great years!

#### **Class of 1997**

Effective March 1st *Catherine Posey* was appointed the Assistant Commissioner for Administration for the Department of Correction.

**Dewey Winfree,** Director Special Investigations, Tennessee Department of Revenue will be retiring from State Government on June 30th.

*Charles White* has returned to the Department of Labor & Work-force Development as Director of UI Integrity, from the Department of Education.

**Rebecca (Becky) Schwab** will become the Superintendent of the Williamson County School System starting July 1st.

#### Class of 2002

Gabrielle Chapman and her husband Don Ungurait welcomed a new baby girl, Ariane May Chapman Ungurait, on April 9th. Both Mom and baby are doing well and Gabrielle has returned to a back log of work!

Karen & *Scott White* welcomed a new baby boy. He was born on May 12, was named Griffin O'Neil White and he weighed 8 lbs 13 oz.

*Marilyn Whalen*, is retiring after 32 years with state government. She plans to pursue consulting projects in the area of staff training and development.

#### Class of 2003

**Roland Colson** has been named Assistant Commissioner for Operations for the Department of Corrections.



Want to keep up to date on TGEI events and happenings? Make sure you have updated your information in the TGEI Alumni Directory. If you can't remember your password or need assistance you may contact Sharon Buwalda by phone 615.741.5622 or e-mail sharon buwalda@state.tn.us

## Dr. Robert M. Smith Selected as Next President of Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania

Following an 11 month national search, the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's Board of Governors has selected Dr. Robert M. Smith to serve as the next president of Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Smith has served as Slippery Rock's interim president since December 2002.

Dr. Smith earned a bachelor's degree in speech communication with minors in mathematics and education from Wichita State University, a master's degree in interpersonal communication from Ohio University and a doctoral degree in communication theory with a minor in research methodology from Temple University.

Upon graduating from Wichita State in 1967, Dr. Smith joined the University's faculty as an associate professor of communications, a position he held for 10 years. In 1987, Dr. Smith joined the faculty and administration at the University of Tennessee at Martin as a full professor in the Department of Communication and dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. He also served as executive director of WestStar Leadership Development Program from 1989-1999 and as director of the Tennessee Governor's School for the Humanities from 1996-1999. We all know his best because of his dedication and commitment to the Tennessee Government Executive Institute, where he has served as a facilitator for many years.

If you would like to send Dr. Bob a note of congratulations, his mailing address is: Slippery Rock University, 1 Morrow Way, Slippery Rock, PA, 16057. His e-mail address is: <a href="mailto:robert.smith@sru.edu">robert.smith@sru.edu</a>.



#### **TGEI Class Dates**

Class Selection and Announcement - June  $23^{rd}$  Orientation - July  $29^{th}$ 

Week One - August 22<sup>nd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> Week Two - September 19<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> Week Three - October 17<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>

#### Home Away From Home

If you plan to stay overnight when you visit the TGEI Class of 2004 this fall in Knoxville, be ready for a pleasant surprise. The Hilton has completed it's much needed renovation. The lobby area is nice and cozy with dark wooden bookshelves and a fireplace. A new bar, appropriately named the "Orange Martini" has opened and Starbucks has moved in as well. The back courtyard is now fenced with nice tables. The Class of 2004 can enjoy their martinis and/or lattes outdoors in the shade at wrought iron tables! The hospitality room is much improved, although the condition of the hospitality room has never prevented anyone from having a good time!

The Knoxville Library is still across the street, but there is talk of a new downtown library for Knoxville. Talk is also underway to do something with the Sunsphere...what to do with it is still a question. The YMCA remains down the street with friendly front desk people and the functional weight room. And, of course, the UT Conference Center is still busy and is still freezing cold! As of June 8, 2004, broccoli is still being served at every meal!

## TGEI Class Reporters for 2004

The newsletter staff is always looking for updates, stories, good news, etc., on our fellow alumni. In order to accomplish this, we utilize "Class Reporters" representing every one of the TGEI Classes. The reporters for 2004 will be contacting you via e-mail, telephone or in person to pick your brain on any information you might have regarding fellow classmates as well as your own update. Please contribute information because your input is what makes this network so very viable. Listed below are the latest class reporters:

Class Year 1983	Name Robert Bumbalough	Telephone Number 615-313-4715	E-mail Address Robert.Bumbalough@state.tn.us
1984	Ken Becker	615-741-3461	Ken.Becker@state.tn.us
1985	Marva Bradford	615-741-8635	Marva.Bradford@state.tn.us
1986	Gladys Wolfe	615-741-4424	Gladys.Wolfe@state.tn.us
1987	Carolyn Mills	615-313-5801	Carolyn.Mills@state.tn.us
1988	Bill McClanahan	Retired	gg.mc@comcast.net
1989	Pat Totty	615-253-6179	Patricia.Totty@state.tn.us
1990	John Casey	615-532-1284	John.Casey@state.tn.us
1991	Ted Fellman	615-741-1104	Ted.Fellman@state.tn.us
1993	Brenda Clark	615-741-2107	Brenda.Clark@state.tn.us
1994	Robert Barlow	615-741-8285	Robert.Barlow@state.tn.us
1996	Quincy Styke	615-532-0562	Quincy.Styke@state.tn.us
1997	Larry Richardson	615-741-3367	Larry.Richardson@state.tn.us
1998	Gary Godsey	615-253-4296	Gary.Godsey@state.tn.us
1999	Sue Quick	615-837-5049	Sue.Quick2@state.tn.us
2000	Barbara Charlet	615-532-5959	Barbara.Charlet@state.tn.us
2001	Deborah Wallace Copeland	615-532-3065	dcopeland@oig.ga.gov
2002	Jean Stone	615 741-3939	Jean.A.stone@state.tn.us
2003	Carol Freeman	615 781-6639	Carol.Freeman@state.tn.us

# TGEI Alumni Network Mission Statement

To Enhance the effectiveness of executives in **Tennessee State** Government through education, fostering personal networking strategies, developing new leaders and practical application of principles of contemporary management philosophies.